

APPROVED: /BT/

/BT/ 05/20/2010

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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| Application No. | : 10/581,890 | Confirmation No. | : 8715 |
| First Named Inventor | : Frank DUVINAGE | | |
| PCT Filed | : November 27, 2004 | | |
| TC/A.U. | : 3748 | | |
| Examiner | : Binh Q. TRAN | | |
| Docket No. | : 095309.57817US | | |
| Title | : Exhaust Gas Purification System for a Motor Vehicle Having a Reducing Agent Storage Tank, and Associated Operating Method | | |

RESPONSE AFTER FINAL REJECTION

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
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Sir:

This response is respectfully submitted in response to the final Office Action dated November 24, 2009.

Independent claims 9, 16, 19, and 20 are now rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), along with all other claims in this application, as unpatentable over the Liang et al. ('771) patent, of record, in view of newly cited U.S. Patent 5,763,771 to Ott et al. Reconsideration is requested.

Claim 9, the only independent claim directed to an exhaust gas purification *system*, particularly specifies that the reducing agent storage tank recited is configured to have a capacity that is at least equal to a level predetermined by an assumed reducing agent consumption during a predetermined maintenance interval. The Liang et al. and Ott et al. disclosures, collectively, fail to suggest an exhaust gas purification system meeting the limitations noted. While the capacity or volume of the Liang et al. storage tank